



MELTON HIGHWAY

LEVEL CROSSING REMOVAL UPDATE

ISSUE #3 JANUARY 2017

Removing 50 dangerous and congested level crossings will transform the way people live, work and travel across metropolitan Melbourne and improve safety for drivers and pedestrians.

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English, please call 9280 0780.

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information in an accessible format.

What's happening

The Melton Highway level crossing in Sydenham has been fast-tracked for removal by the Victorian Government. Removing it will improve safety and reduce congestion for the 38,000 vehicles that travel across it each day.

The project team will be raising Melton Highway over the train line and building a six-lane bridge, with early works starting this summer.

We'd like to thank everyone who attended our recent community information sessions, where we presented the latest designs and introduced the constructor, BMD Constructions, to locals. BMD is currently finalising the design, which we will share with you in the coming months.

Works begin in January

From late January 2017 the Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) will start preparing the site for construction of the new road bridge.

The local area will see some changes to the road network, including the temporary widening of Melton Highway, changes to traffic signals, and installation of a temporary level crossing.

Melton Highway will remain open during construction, with two lanes of traffic maintained in each direction.

For safety reasons, the speed limit will be reduced to 40km an hour, and there may be some temporary lane closures.



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Preparing for stage one (late January to late April)

- 1 Temporary road widening works**
We will be temporarily widening the road on the north side of Melton Highway from Overton Lea Boulevard to McCubbin Drive. This will allow us to fit two lanes of traffic in each direction while we build the south side of the bridge. Access to the footpath will be maintained.
- 2 Traffic signalling works**
The traffic lights at Overton Lea Boulevard will be replaced with temporary traffic lights. The intersection will continue to be controlled by these traffic lights for the duration of the project.
- 3 Installation of a temporary level crossing**
Metro Trains Melbourne will shift the existing level crossing slightly to the north side of Melton Highway to enable stage one works to occur. The temporary level crossing will be safe for use by vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and wheelchair users.
- 4 Construction of the two-way service road**
As part of the final design, the service road to the north of Melton Highway will become a two-way road, allowing motorists to access the highway in both directions from Victoria and Sydenham roads.
During construction, the width of the service lane will be reduced, one lane of traffic will be maintained and parking will not be permitted. We will have traffic controllers on hand to ensure residents can still access their property safely.
- 5 Construction of the new shared walking/cycling path**
We will build a new walking and cycling path on the south side of Melton Highway from Sydenham Road to Overton Lea Boulevard. Pedestrians and cyclists will continue to use the existing path during construction.
Melton Highway will remain open during construction with a total of four lanes.

Works on Melton Highway

Staging of works

The Melton Highway level crossing will be removed in two stages:

Stage one

We will build the new bridge on the south side of Melton Highway first. During this time, two lanes of traffic will be maintained in each direction on the north side of Melton Highway over a temporary level crossing.

We will provide traffic maps illustrating these construction changes and when they will take effect.

From mid-February, direct access from Melton Highway onto Sydenham Road will close. This is to enable safe construction of the bridge on the south side of Melton Highway.

During this time, access to Sydenham Road will be via Overton Lea Boulevard and Trickey Avenue.

Stage two

Later in 2017, construction of the new bridge on the north side of Melton Highway will begin. During this stage, the level crossing will be completely removed and traffic will no longer have to wait at the boom gates.

Two lanes of traffic will be maintained in each direction on the new south side of the bridge.

Site establishment

From early January, the level crossing removal project team will be arriving onsite. We will establish a project site office, and install secure fences and protective hoarding along the roadside and the train line for worker and community safety.

We will also start some early works such as surveying, geotechnical investigations, soil testing and the removal of some vegetation

and trees located on the Melton Highway median strip.

LXRA aims to minimise tree removal, however the trees in the middle of Melton Highway need to be removed to allow for the construction of the bridge and the additional traffic lane in each direction.

We are currently finalising the landscaping plan, which will include tree planting in the local area.

Other early works will include identifying and relocating key underground services such as communications (Telstra), electrical, sewer, water and gas.

What to expect during construction

LXRA is committed to minimising and managing noise, dust and vibration. However, major construction can cause some unavoidable impacts to the local community, businesses and services.

If we think that your household or business will be directly affected by upcoming works, we will contact you to discuss what can be done to reduce the impacts of the works. Further information about how the project will manage these impacts can be found on our website.

To keep everyone safe during these works we need to reduce speed limits and implement temporary lane closures.

Please pay close attention to road signs and temporary speed limits. When works are close to the road, we will need to stop traffic on Melton Highway and side streets periodically for up to five minutes at a time. Traffic controllers will be closely monitoring these stoppages.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to deliver this essential upgrade.

Melton Highway will remain open during construction with two lanes of traffic in each direction.

Rail and road closures

The train line will stay open for the majority of construction, with just a small number of short weekend or overnight closures required. The community will be notified of these works and any closures well in advance.

Melton Highway will remain open throughout the vast majority of construction, with two lanes in each direction.

We may need some short term lane closures on Melton Highway and some night time closures, but these will be kept to a minimum.

Some adjoining local roads in the area may need to be closed for short periods, such as Victoria Road and the Melton Highway service road to the north. Access to businesses and residential properties will be maintained throughout this time.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority is committed to providing a safe road network for all road users and the project team during construction.

A Traffic Management Strategy has been prepared in partnership with VicRoads to ensure the project manages traffic in a safe and efficient manner.

Project timeline

January 2017

- Site establishment: commence preliminary investigatory works and surveying

February to May 2017

- Temporarily widen the north of Melton Highway, service relocations, installing temporary traffic signals, shifting the level crossing slightly to the north
- Build a new walking and cycling path from Overton Lea Boulevard to Sydenham Road on the south side of Melton Highway
- Modify the service road between Overton Lea Boulevard and Victoria Road to provide two way access and allow for the future connection of Victoria and Sydenham roads under Melton Highway

Mid 2017

- Two lanes of traffic in each direction will be switched to the north of Melton Highway over the temporary level crossing
- Construction of the bridge on the south side of Melton Highway will commence (stage one works)

Late 2017

- Completion of stage one bridge and road works
- Two lanes of traffic in each direction will switch over to the new bridge on the south side of Melton Highway
- Removal of the Melton Highway level crossing
- Construction of the bridge on the north side of Melton Highway (stage two works)

Late 2018

- Project completion.

Communicating with us

You can call us on 1800 762 667 (24 hours, seven days) to ask any questions or raise concerns.

To keep up to date with upcoming works, changes to traffic conditions or for more information about the project, you can visit our website or sign up for email updates at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe.

Regular newsletters and notification letters will also be distributed to the local area to ensure you are kept up to date as the project progresses.